

ROXBURY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

February 11, 2016

Attendees:

Present: Dave Los, Mary Schmidt, Tricia Fragale, Fred Hall, Linda Alnemy, Mike Smith, Sonja Boon, Richard Vetter, Jackie Vitiello

Public: Colin Cowe, Greentech; Suzette Pasquale, Girl Scout Leader; Gary Barrens; Christy Evers

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:36 PM.

Administrative Matters:

Budget Update- Fred will inquire about a grant for water testing, he believes this is from the highlands, and would not necessarily support our funding. . REC had inquired about adding \$1500 for water testing. Money for gravel will come out of the trust. The budget for this year is \$5500. \$300 from REC will go to Raritan Headwaters.

Fennimore Update- Arrested Richard Bernardi. SO2 monitors at 0 level. H2S are registering on average at 4 or 5 parts/billion, which is far below ATSDR recommendations. Fred reminded us that the township will do well testing at no cost for residents. Fred offered to take any questions from the REC to the experts.

Planning Board Update- Jackie provided a report on a proposed package good store in Landing at 190 Mt. Arlington Ave. No environmental concerns expressed.

Matters Presented by the Public: Christy Evers has received a grant from the pollination project out of Berkley California. She was attending the meeting to learn more about what the REC does, and whether or not their might be an opportunity to work together. She will submit a description of her project to Marty Schmidt.

May 7 or 14th- Saturday High School Environmental Club to volunteer at the permaculture garden.

Marty Schmidt volunteered to serve as a mentor for two girl scouts interested in starting a butterfly garden at Saint Therese.

Collin Cowe from Greentech presented the capabilities of his organization. We discussed working with him to do some presentations within the Roxbury Community to advance the Energy Program.

We'll start with a smaller group. Ideas include: realtors who conduct buying seminars, a talk at the library. Linda will reach out to the library to inquire if energy conservation is a topic of interest. We discussed the fact that the content of the presentations would need to be non-promotional, yet provide education to the community.

Matters Presented by the Commissioners:

National Ovarian Cancer Coalition is holding a joint NJ/NY branch walk at Liberty State Park. Tricia has a team, "Strong as Steel".

Jackie received correspondence- regarding cork recycling at local merchant

Community Apiary- Morris Somerset- Bee meeting May 7th or 14th at the Garden. Roxbury hosting. Sonja to let Mike know dates for planting.

Morris Somerset received a casting call from Meghan Strickman Ribs Inc. Bold professionals as social mentors.

Community Garden- Linda picked up garden supplies. Rick Blood assisted in delivering them.

Next month Linda will be doing advertising for the garden in the newsletter.

Opening day at the garden is April 1.

Mt. Arlington asked REC to write a letter supporting their efforts to establish a community garden. Letter provided.

ANJEC Energy Conservation- Tricia to look at possible venues for Energy presentation. Jackie to speak with Leah about help that Mt. Arlington can assist.

Stream/Waterways Cleanup- REC signed up for this on April 16 at Black River with Raritan Headwaters Association. Jackie going to Ramsey to ask for canoes.

Randolph Stream Clean up Volunteers- May possibly do some clean-up on Patriots Path and possibly Midland Park.

Monofilament Bins- Bins need to be emptied. Mike will try to empty soon.

Apiary- SB to follow up with Marty to finish doors on shed.

Goals for 2016- Earth Day; Possibly attending Community Center in Morristown; Participating in Succasunny Day.

Meeting adjourned 9:30 PM.

Permaculture Garden- Planting to take place in May.